



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE**  
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**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**NO. 10-2021-038**  
**Series of 2021**

**TO :** ALL CONCERNED  
**FROM :** THE OIC – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT :** SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDE TO THE MINIMUM LABELING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTED MEAT

Pursuant to the Department of Agriculture Administrative Order (AO) No. 26 Series of 2005, DA AO No. 24 Series of 2010, and dialogues with the stakeholders, the following supplemental guide to the minimum labeling requirements for imported meat, which are considered acceptable, are hereby issued:

LABELING REQUIREMENT	DEFINITION/MEANING	EXAMPLE
Registered trade name of the exporters or brand name of the product	Refers to the name of exporting meat establishment.	Sofina Foods Inc.
Business name and address of the exporter	Refers to the address of the exporting meat establishment. This commonly includes the meat establishment accreditation number	Sofina Foods Inc. Est No. 92D
Country of origin	Refers to the name (full name or abbreviation) of the country of origin.	Product of Canada
Lot identification	Refers to any combination of letters or numbers by which the history of the production and packaging is determined. The reference code, identification or bar codes are recognized to be the same as the lot identification.	Lot No. 0326697
Product description and list of ingredients	Refers to the common/usual name or an appropriate description (i.e. type of meat, cut) of the product.	Frozen Pork Shoulder Boneless Skinless
Net quantity of contents, in terms of weight, measure or numerical count rounded to the nearest tenth (expressed in METRIC SYSTEM)	Refers to the total volume of meat inside the container in terms of weight or numerical count, rounded off to at least the nearest tenths in the metric system.	27.22 kg

*“A food-secure Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk”*





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Date of manufacture AND packaging	Date of Manufacture - Refers to the manufacture, production or slaughter date. Date of Packaging - Refers to the date the meat was fabricated/cut, packed and/or frozen. The date may be reflected as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the day, month, and year may be declared in a numerical sequence with the month written in letters;</li><li>- Numerical sequence with a legend format reference (ex. dd/mm/yy).</li></ul>	01 Jan 2020  01/01/2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)
Date of minimum durability ("best before") or expiration date	Refers to the date which the meat is not expected to retain its quality and should not be sold. The date may be reflected as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Day, month, and year may be declared in a numerical sequence with the month written in letters;</li><li>- Numerical sequence with a legend format reference (ex. dd/mm/yy);</li><li>- Text referring to the reckoning date reference.</li></ul> This is done so that consumers and inspectors will not be confused.	01 Jan 2020  01/01/2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)  18 months from production date
Handling and storage instruction	Refers to the state and the temperature for which the refrigeration facility/freezer shall be set and all other instructions necessary to maintain the safety, freshness, and quality of the product.	Keep frozen at 18°C.

For information and guidance.

  
DR. JOCELYN A. SALVADOR, MPM